

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 HA-05 AID-05 ABF-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 SSM-03 ACDA-12 /139 W

-----089312 121612Z /40

R 112309Z NOV 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7354

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM 3118

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNGA, UNRWA, XF

SUBJECT: 32ND UNGA: SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE ADOPTS
RESOLUTIONS ON UNRWA

REF: USUN 4548

1. ON NOVEMBER 11 THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (SPC)
ADOPTED TWO MORE RESOLUTIONS ON UNRWA, ONE ON PALESTINE
REFUGEES IN THE GAZA STRIP, AND THE OTHER ON POPULATION
AND REFUGEES DISPLACE SINCE 1967. THE GAZA STRIP RESOLU-
TION WAS ADOPTED BY A VOTE OF 104 FOR, 1 AGAINST (ISRAEL),
AND 4 ABSTENTIONS (U.S., CANADA, NICARAGUA, AND COSTA RICA).
THE SECOND RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY A VOTE OF 106 FOR (U.S.),
1 AGAINST (ISRAEL), AND 2 ABSTENTIONS (NICARAGUA AND COSTA
RICA).

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2. IN AN EXPLANATION OF VOTE ISRAELI REP NAJAR REFERRED TO
THE GAZA STRIP RESOLUTION'S CALLING UPON REFUGEES TO
RETURN TO CAMPS AS "TOTALLY ABSURD," "COMPLETELY DIVORCED
FROM REALITY", AND AGAINST THE WISHES OF THE REGUGEEES
THEMSELVES. U.S. REP BENTON IN EXPLAINING THE U.S.
ABSTENTION ON THE GAZA STRIP USED THE WORDS "ILLOGICAL"

AND "ANOMALOUS" IN REFERRING TO THE INTENT OF THE RESOLUTION.

3. THE ISRAELI STATEMENT INCITED THE CUSTROMARY PING-PONG MATCH OF ARID POLEMICS BETWEEN ISRAEL ON THE ONE SIDE AND JORDAN, SYRIA, IRAQ, THE PLO AND EGYPT ON THE OTHER. SEVERAL ARAB REPS ATTACKED THE RECENT ISRAELI BOMBINGS IN SOUTHERN LEBANON, AND THE ISRAELI REP DEFENDED THOSE ACTIONS BY ASSERTING THEIR PURPOSE WAS TO "DEFEND THE CEASE-FIRE."

4. JORDAN INTRODUCED ITS DRAFT RESOLUTION ON OFFERS BY MEMBER STATES OF GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION INCLUDING VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR THE PALESTINIAN REFUGEES. AT THE REQUEST OF BRITISH REP BATTISCOMBE, THE CHAIRMAN AGREED TO DELAY CONSIDERATION OF THIS RESOLUTION UNTIL NEXT WEEK. IT IS NOW SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION ON THE AFTERNOON OF NOVEMBER 15.

5. FOLLOWING IS THE STATEMENT MADE BY U.S. REP MRS. MARJORIE CRAIG BENTON IN EXPLANATION OF THE U.S. VOTES ON THE FIRST FIVE UNRWA RESOLUTIONS: QUOTE
MR. CHAIRMAN,
MY DELEGATION VOTED FOR THE FOUR RESOLUTIONS BECAUSE THEY ARE CONSISTENT WITH OUR LONG-STANDING SUPPORT FOR UNRWA AND THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH IT WAS CREATED. WE ABSTAINED ON THE RESOLUTION ON PALESTINIAN REFUGEES IN THE GAZA STRIP BECAUSE WE FIND IT ILLOGICAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT A RESOLUTION WHICH PURPORTS TO RELIEVE THE PLIGHT OF REGUGEES CALLS FOR THEIR RETURN TO CAMPS. IT SEEMS ANOMALOUS TO ASK ISRAEL TO RETURN TO CAMPS THOSE REFUGEES WHO HAVE FOUND OR BEEN PROVIDED WITH MORE ADEQUATE HOUSING OUTSIDE THE CAMPS EVEN IF THEY DO NOT WISH TO RETURN TO CAMP EXISTENCE. UNQUOTE
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, COMMITTEES, UNGA RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN04596
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770419-0538
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771167/aaaacfcq.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fc9e801b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 USUN NEW YORK 4548
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 615672
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 32ND UNGA: SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS ON UNRWA
TAGS: PORG, SREF, XF, UNGA, UNRWA, SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fc9e801b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009